

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the pending application is respectfully requested in view of the following observations.

In the claims

Claim 1 has been amended to recite “A series of value documents having at least two value documents wherein at least one value document is an upgrade of the other value documents, the value documents comprising a value document substrate and at least two different feature substances for checking the value documents of the series, wherein the first feature substance is incorporated into the volume of the substrate of the value documents, and the second feature substance is provided on a surface of the value documents substrate in the form of a coding, wherein the upgrade of the value documents of the series in addition to or instead of the first feature substance comprises a third feature substance.” Support for this amendatory language may be found at least in paragraph [0036] of the specification.

The claims are now considered to be placed in condition for allowance.

No new matter is introduced via the amendment to the claims.

Entry of the amendment to the claims is kindly requested.

Rejection of claims 1-6, 8-12, 14-17, 19, 32, and 35 under 35 USC 103(a) over US patent 6,155,605 (*Bratchley*) in view of US patent 5,169,155 (*Soules*) and US patent 4,496,961 (*Devrient*)

Rejection of claim 7 under 35 USC 103(a) over US patent 6,155,605 (*Bratchley*) in view of US patent 5,169,155 (*Soules*), US patent 4,496,961 (*Devrient*), and EP 0 052 624 (*Kaule*)

Rejection of claims 33 and 34 under 35 USC 103(a) over US patent 6,155,605 (*Bratchley*) in view of US patent 5,169,155 (*Soules*), US patent 4,496,961 (*Devrient*), and *Anti-Stokes Phosphors/Luminophors (ASPL)*

Reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested in view of the amendment to the claims and the following observations.

It was acknowledged on page 7 of the final Office Action mailed on November 12, 2010 and the Advisory Action mailed on January 14, 2011 that the feature of “an upgrade of the value document of the series in addition to or instead of the first feature substance comprises a third feature substance” was not found in the prior art. It was further indicated in the Advisory Action that such a recitation may be relevant in a method and/or system of providing a plurality of value documents.

It is submitted that amended claim 1 is in condition for allowance.

Amended claim 1 recites, in part, a series of value documents having at least two value documents wherein at least one value document is an upgrade of the other value documents and the upgrade of the value document of the series in addition to or instead of the first feature substance comprises a third feature substance.

Amended claim 1 is now drawn to a series of value documents which include at least two value documents. Depending on whether a given value document of the series is an upgrade, the value document may or may not have a third feature substance. Since the presence or absence of the third feature substance directly affects the structure of a given value document of the series, the feature of the upgrade of the value document of the series is relevant to the structure claimed in amended claim 1. Therefore, the feature of the upgrade of the value documents of the series cannot be considered to be intended use.

Withdrawal of the rejection of the claims in view of the prior art is kindly requested.

Conclusion

As a result of the amendment to the claims, and further in view of the foregoing remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that every pending claim in the present application be allowed and the application be passed to issue.

If any issues remain that may be resolved by a telephone or facsimile communication with the applicant's attorney, the examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the numbers shown below.

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Respectfully submitted,

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